

For Immediate Release

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Auto industry takes the lead in hazardous material training for our nation's 22,000 dealerships

OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS (February 3, 2006) – 28 leading automobile and OE manufacturers in partnership with the Coordinating Committee for Automotive Repair (CCAR) have banded together to proactively address the growing concerns over the increasing number of hazardous materials shipments generated by our nation's 22,000 auto dealerships.

"Of the more than 800,000 shipments of hazardous materials made each day, one improperly handled shipment could lead to catastrophic results", said Robert G. Stewart, President of CCAR. "The U.S. Department of Transportation works to protect the public from potential disasters involving hazardous materials (also known as HazMat), and the DOT has turned its attention to the Service and Parts Departments of the nation's auto dealership".

The industry response is the introduction of HazmatU and its first course, *Hazardous Material Training for Dealers*. HazmatU trains individuals working in the automotive industry to gain a clear and accurate understanding of the complex U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations for the transport of hazardous materials.

CCAR, working in cooperation with ShipMate, Inc., a HazMat specialty training company based in Torrance, Calif., was selected to develop and provide the HazMat training by the North American Automotive HazMat Action Committee (NAAHAC), a group of regulatory compliance specialists representing the major automotive manufacturers in North America.

"We welcome the opportunity to work with dealers and parts distribution centers with HazMatU," said Guy Bargnes, CCAR Chairman. "The introduction of HazMatU represents a continuation of CCAR's efforts to provide assist the automotive industry to have a greater understanding of its compliance responsibilities in areas related to safety and the environment." Bargnes is Director of Marketing, BASF Corporation, NAFTA Region/Automotive Refinish.

HazMatU is available for use 24-hours-a-day to subscribers and at a per facility cost of \$299 for an annual subscription, HazMatU cost effective for training every employees in a dealership or parts department.

"Maintaining Hazmat training compliance at multiple Parts Distributions Centers across the U. S. has been a challenge," said Tim Hess, a NAAHAC member representing Hyundai Motor America. "The CCAR/ShipMate online training program has given us the ability to train our employees without disrupting the work schedules, and we are also able to train new employees faster."

About CCAR

CCAR is a not-for-profit organization which operates the National Environmental Compliance Assistance Center for Auto Repair – CCAR-GreenLink® - in cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency. CCAR also supplies online Safety and Pollution Prevention (S/P2) training to over 6,000 dealer and independent auto repair facilities, and it provides S/P2 free of charge to more than 2,400 automotive career/technical schools.

About NAAHAC

NAAHAC, The North American Automotive Hazmat Action Committee was formed by 28 leading automobile and OE manufacturers to educate the nation's auto dealerships and distribution centers to properly handle and transport hazardous materials. A complete listing of NAAHAC members can be found at www.hazmatu.org.

About Shipmate

ShipMate, Inc. offers cost effective and innovative solutions to solve complex transportation, safety and compliance problems. More information is available at www.shipmate.com.

For more information on HazMatU, visit www.hazmatu.org or call toll-free to 1-888-686-4445.

